

REMARKS

The Official Action of July 26, 2004, and the prior art cited and relied upon therein have been carefully studied. The claims in the application are now claims 1-6, and these claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable reconsideration and such allowance are respectfully urged.

Claims 1-6 remain in the application for consideration.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings, Applicant has enclosed an amended Fig. 3 showing element 31.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the abstract, Applicant has amended the Abstract to eliminate each of the problems identified by the Examiner.

Applicant respectfully submits that these objections have now been overcome.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Lee '447, and claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Snodgrass '231 in view of Ponton '343. Applicant respectfully traverses both of these rejections especially as applied to claim 1 as amended.

With regard to Lee '447, it is directed to a band saw machine intended to serve the same purpose as that of the claimed invention, but is significantly more complex as it is made with many more elements arranged differently than that claimed by Applicant, and therefore functions in a different manner. First, while the fine adjusting device claimed by Applicant is limited to a single screw bar shaft 40 formed as a unit having a handle 41 and a contacting portion 40 at its bottom end, that of Lee comprises a rod 60, a handle 61, supporting portion 62, auxiliary rod 63 and a projecting point 64. Further, the screw bar shaft (rod 60) of Lee has no equivalent contacting point at its bottom end as claimed by Applicant. Indeed, spring 70 of Lee which partially encompasses rod 60 is engaged between movable device 40 and support 62 serves to move movable device 40 when support 62 is moved up toward movable device 40 rather than the end of rod 60.

As such, the bottom end of rod 60 of Lee does not abut against the top end of its transmission device as claimed by Applicant, nor does the Lee device abut the bottom end of the transmission device as claimed by Applicant.

Further, the transmission device of Lee is clearly not located between its fine adjusting device and its cam device as it is in the claimed invention.

With regard to Snodgrass in view of Ponton, Applicant notes that whenever either of the two diameter portions 73 and 74 contacts against the transmission device 60, the fine adjusting device 40 can be operated for fine adjustment. This function is clearly not taught by the combination of Snodgrass and Ponton. Further, the cited combination in no way teaches the inter-engagement of elements as claimed by Applicant as noted above.


The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes Figure 3 only.
This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figure 3 in
which previously omitted element 31 has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

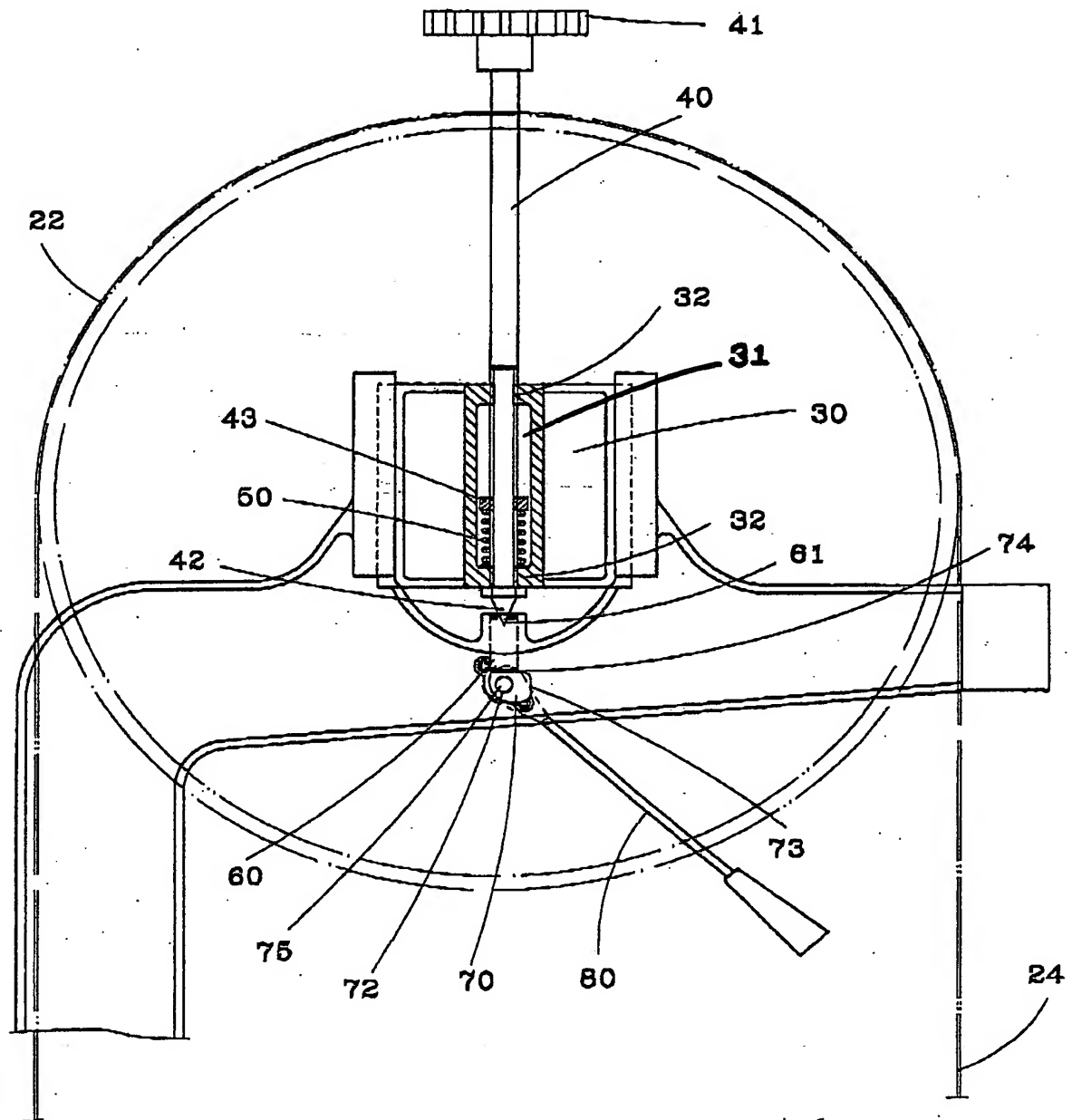


FIG. 3